



OPERATION  
Green Team  
Keeping Huntsville Beautiful

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

## ***Adopt-a-Mile Volunteers worth More than \$1.1 million***

**Huntsville, Alabama** --- Have you wondered what the Adopt-a-Mile signs around Huntsville mean to our city? To put it plainly – it means more than \$1.1 million in volunteer time invested in our city.

“Visitors continue to remark about Huntsville’s cleanliness and beauty, and our Adopt-a-Mile program is a large part of that aesthetic,” said Mayor Tommy Battle. “These volunteers inspire pride in our community, and they make our City a better place.”

As the Keep America Beautiful affiliate for the city, Operation Green Team works with businesses, organizations, families and individuals volunteering to take a mile or more of city streets, streams and areas to keep as litter-free as possible.

“Huntsville has grown in area and number of people,” Director of Operation Green Team Joy McKee commented. “Without volunteers helping keep these areas clean our city would not be as clean. One group has even adopted a tunnel.”

Operation Green Team applies for free GLAD trash bags each year from Keep America Beautiful. These bags are distributed to Adopt-a-Mile partners. For the past 6 years Huntsville has received more than \$600,000 worth of trash bags to use for the Adopt-a-Mile program as well as neighborhood cleanups. Operation Green Team also gives volunteers litter pickup tools, vests and gloves to use.

“We are fortunate to have so many willing to volunteer to do this program,” McKee continued. “It certainly is not the most glamorous task, but the benefit is real.”

There are more than 139 businesses, organizations, families and individuals participating in the program.

“We know there are more involved, but 139 is the best count we have. Each week we are contacted by individuals who have been picking up areas. They don’t want a sign, but we are glad to give them supplies,” said McKee.

Adopt-a-Mile partners manage their areas according to their availability. Some do cleanups as needed, some on a weekly, monthly, quarterly or bi-annual schedule.

To volunteer for the Adopt-a-Mile program contact Operation Green Team at 256.532.5326 or email [denise.taylor@huntsvilleal.gov](mailto:denise.taylor@huntsvilleal.gov).

***For more information contact, Denise Taylor, 256.564.8077***

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